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Experience from Forest Communities of Covid-19 Impacts

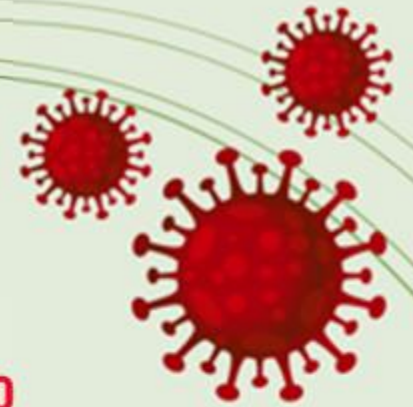
Rapid appraisal of impacts on IPLCs, women and forest illegality in the Congo Basin

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JULY-OCTOBER 2020

WEBINAR SERIES ON COVID-19 AND THE FOREST SECTOR



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Overview

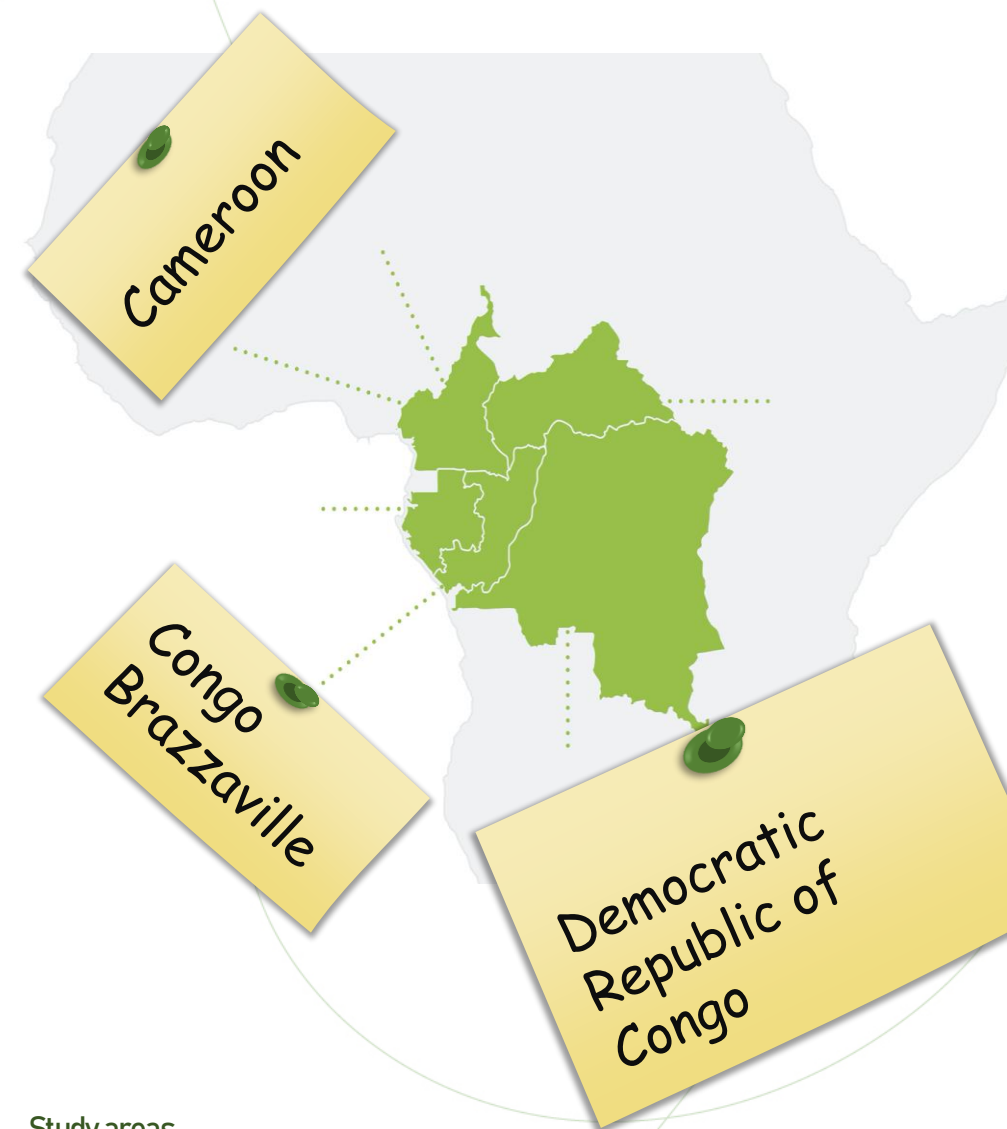
- Study objectives
- Methodology
- Results
- Key messages



Independent forest monitors on the ground in Cameroon

Objectives

1. Identify the impacts of the virus on IPLCs and women;
2. Assess and document the impacts on forest and wildlife activities (especially illegality);
3. Propose actions and mechanisms to address or mitigate impacts on forest dependent groups.



Study areas

Methodology

- ✓ First study to assess impacts with frontline communities; current reports based on telephone surveys, modelling and anecdotal evidence of impacts

Approach

1. Sensitisation and distribution of sanitation kits and PPE to 20,000 persons in target communities where partners deliver independent forest monitoring projects
2. Primary data collection through administered (socially distanced) semi structured questionnaires by partner staff and associates in DRC, Cameroon and Congo (Brazzaville)
3. DRC – 5000 questionnaires; Cameroon – 1800 questionnaires; Congo 125 questionnaires
4. Data analysis – Nvivo 11 and Excel



Project Covid 19 response and support to IPLCs and women

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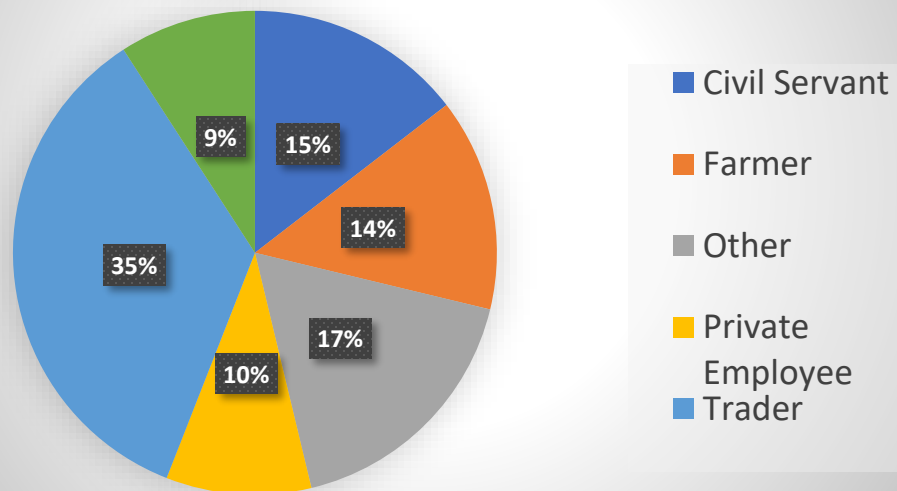


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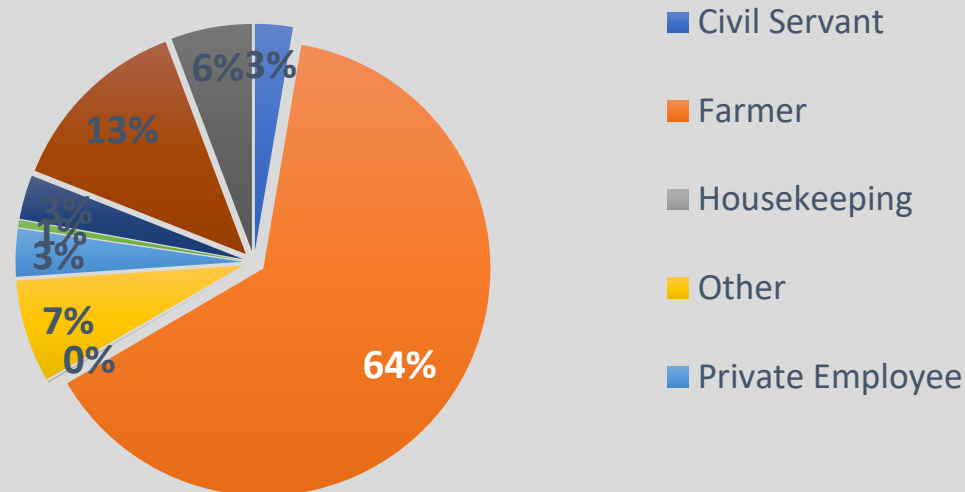


Findings

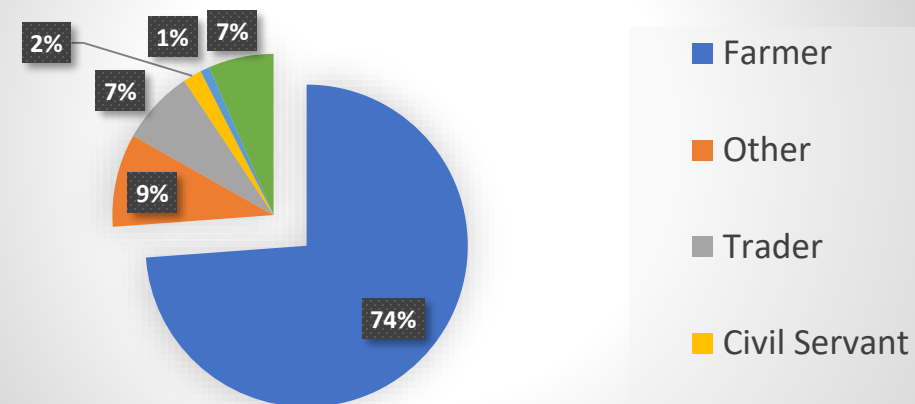
Distribution of respondents by occupation DRC



Distribution of respondents by occupation CMR



Distribution of respondents in ROC by professional activity



- Majority of respondents in CMR and ROC – farmers
- Majority in DRC, involved in trading

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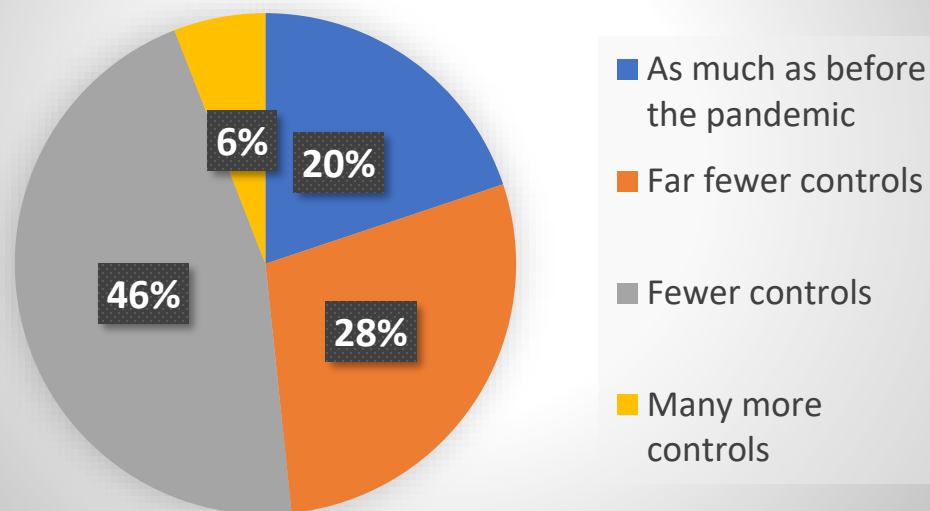
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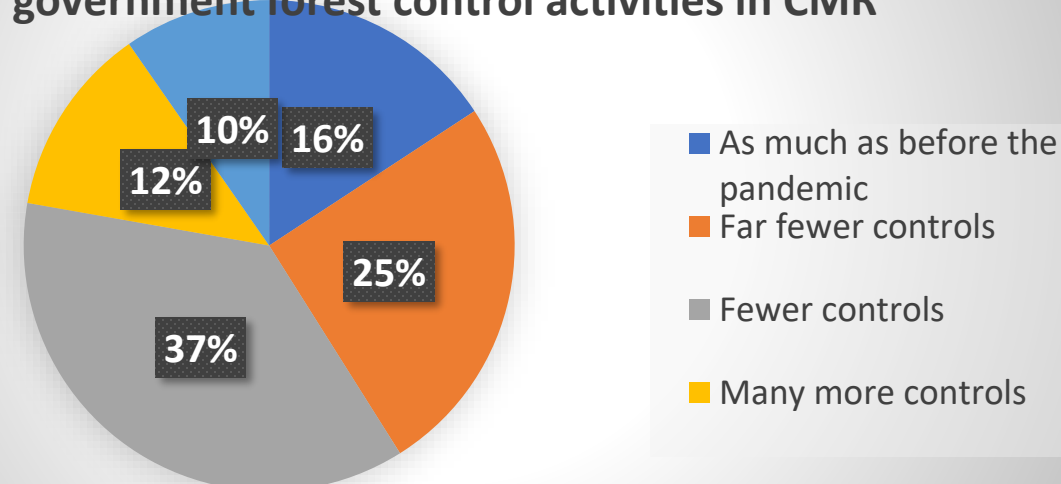
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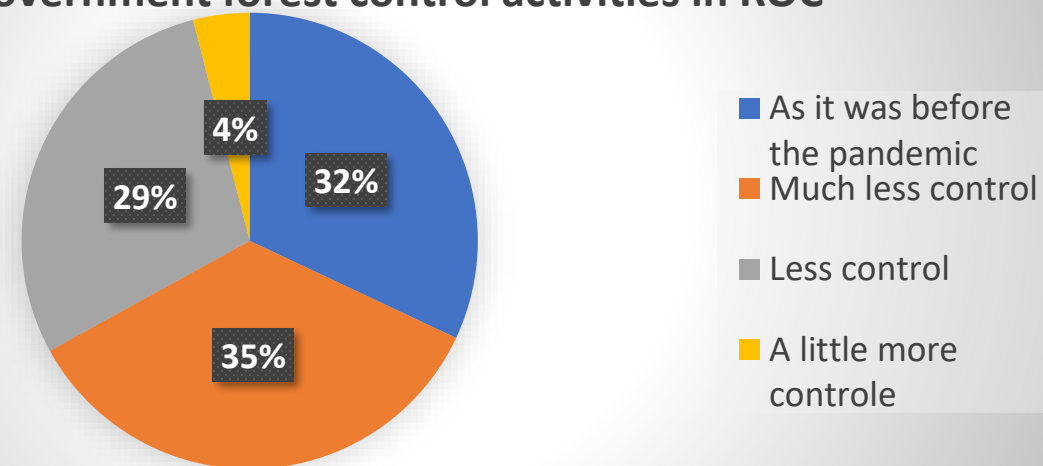
Perception of presence and availability of government forest control activities in DRC



Perception of presence and availability of government forest control activities in CMR



Perception of presence and availability of government forest control activities in ROC



- In all countries, significant absence of government forest control services

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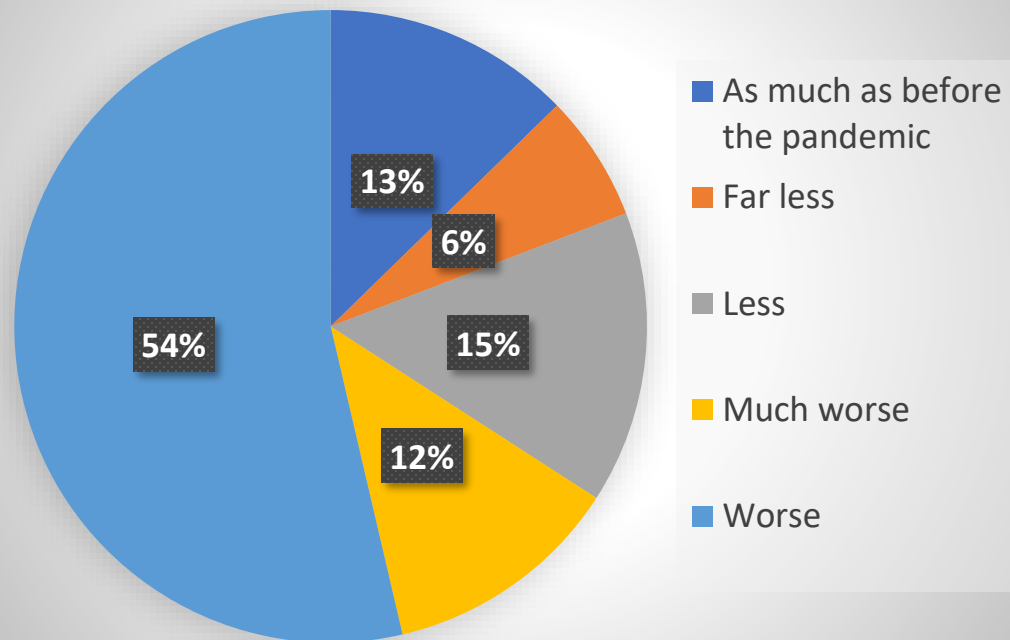


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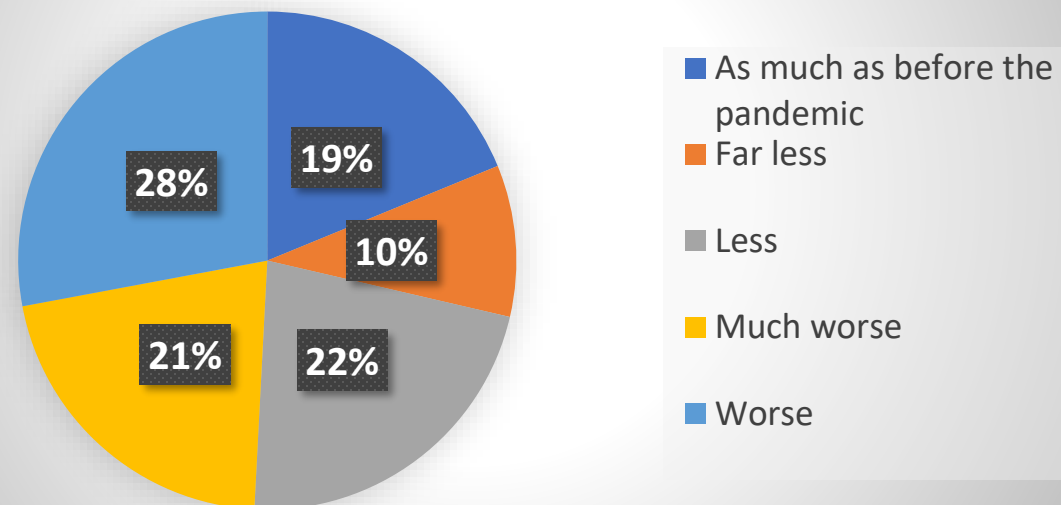


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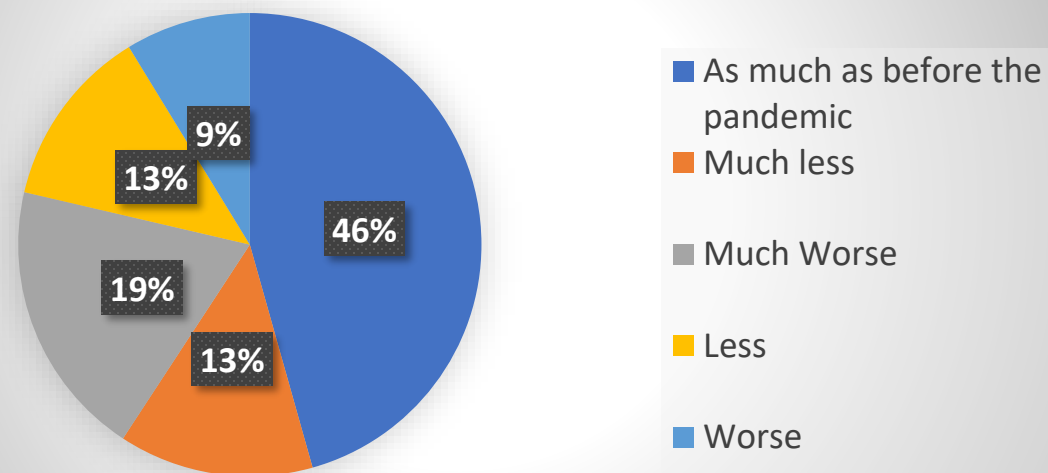
Perceived levels of illegal logging in DRC



Perceived levels of illegal logging in CMR



Perceived levels of illegal logging in ROC



- In all countries, significant rise in illegal logging activities

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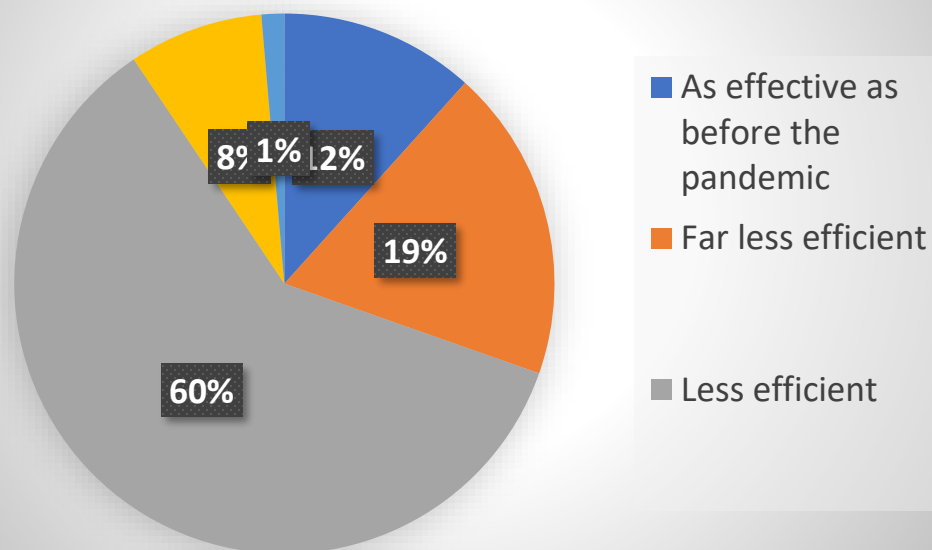
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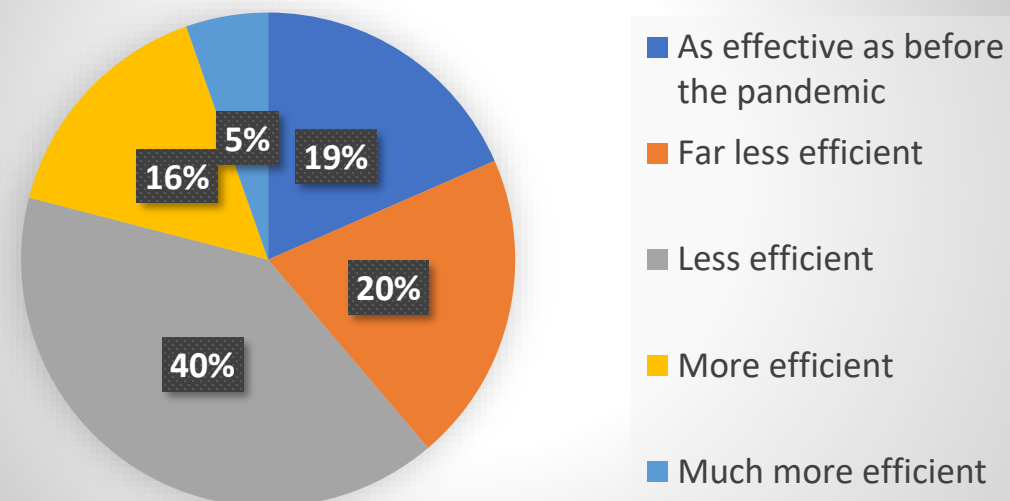
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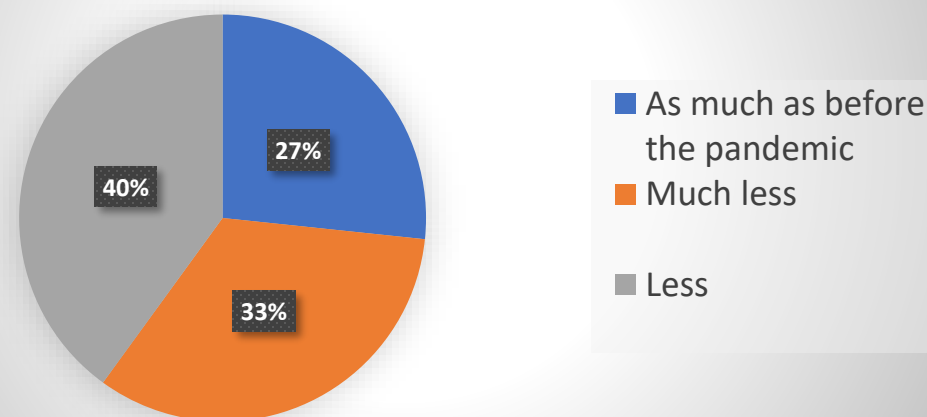
Perceived level of effectiveness of forest control by administration in DRC



Perceived level of effectiveness of forest control by administration in CMR



Perceived level of effectiveness of forest control by administration in ROC



- In all countries, significant depreciation in perceived effectiveness of forest controls when seen

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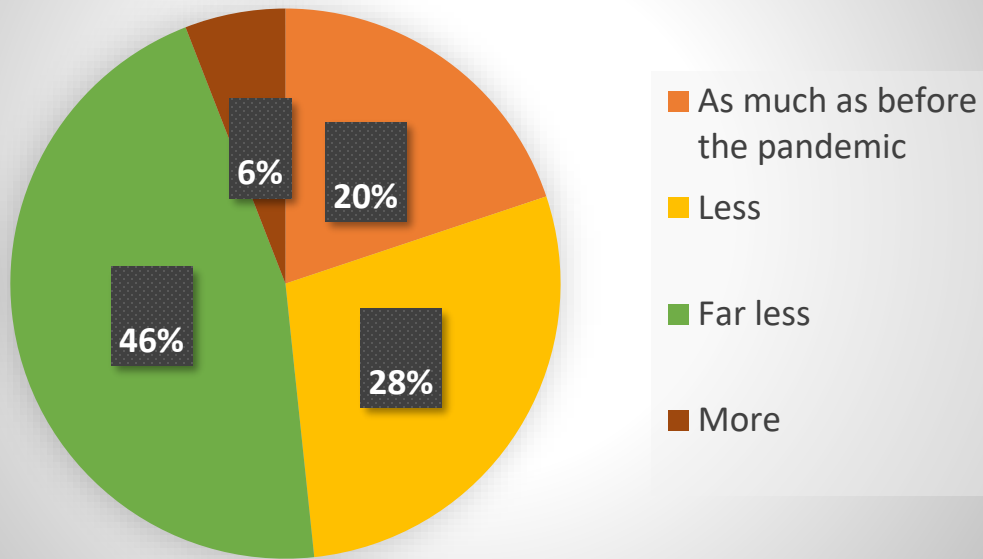
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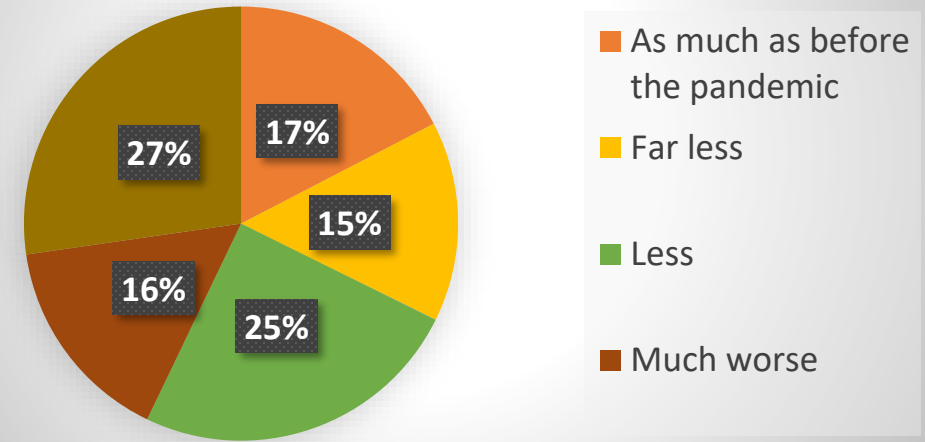
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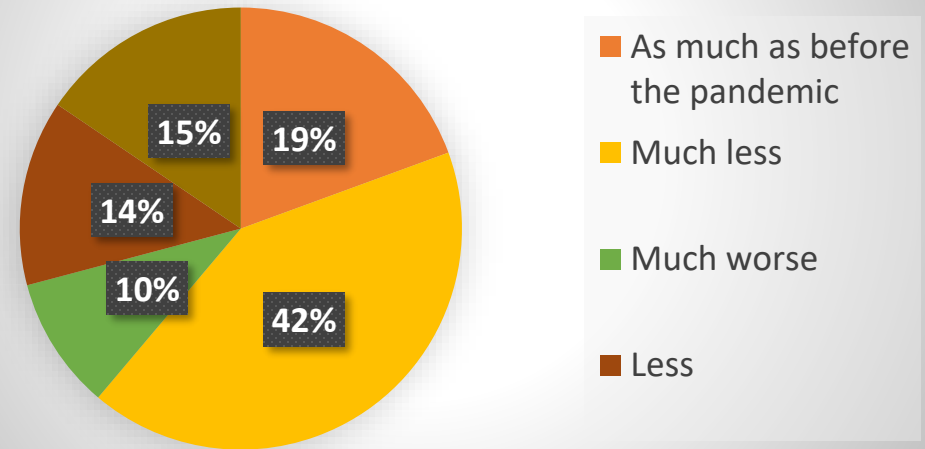
Perception of illegal wildlife trafficking during Covid in DRC



Perception of illegal wildlife trafficking during Covid in CMR



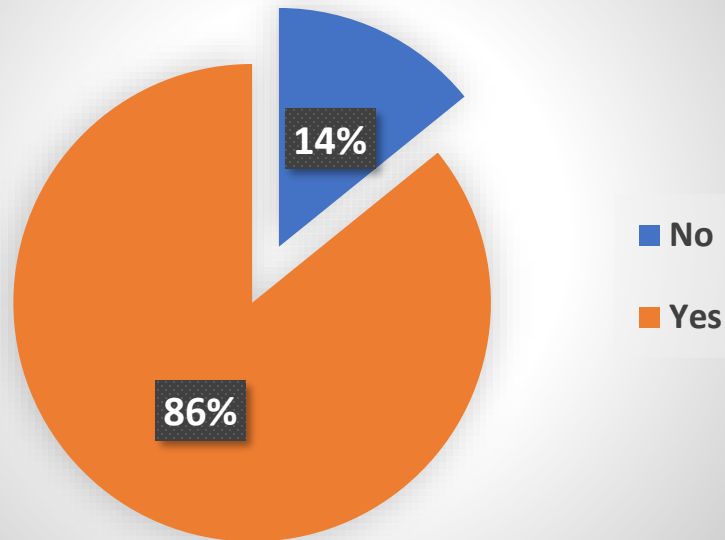
Perception of illegal wildlife trafficking during Covid in ROC



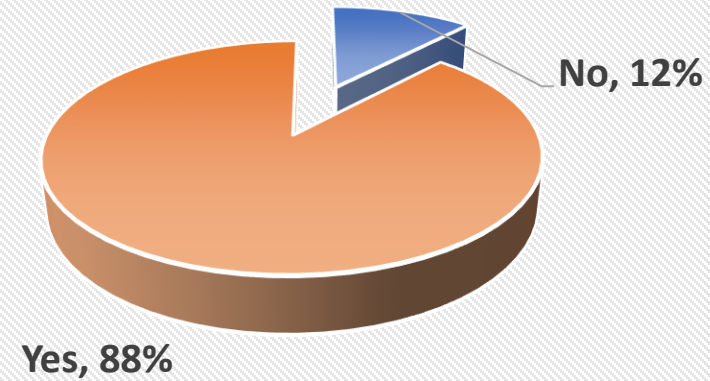
- In all countries, significant perceived decline in illegal wildlife trafficking

Findings

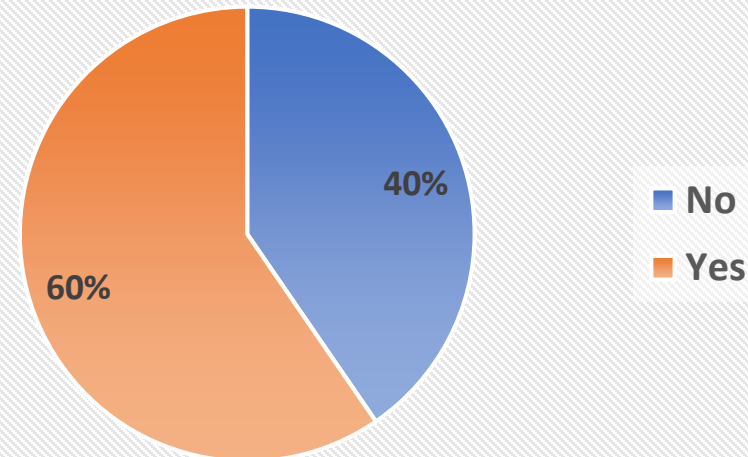
Perceived impacts of COVID in DRC



Perceived impacts on women

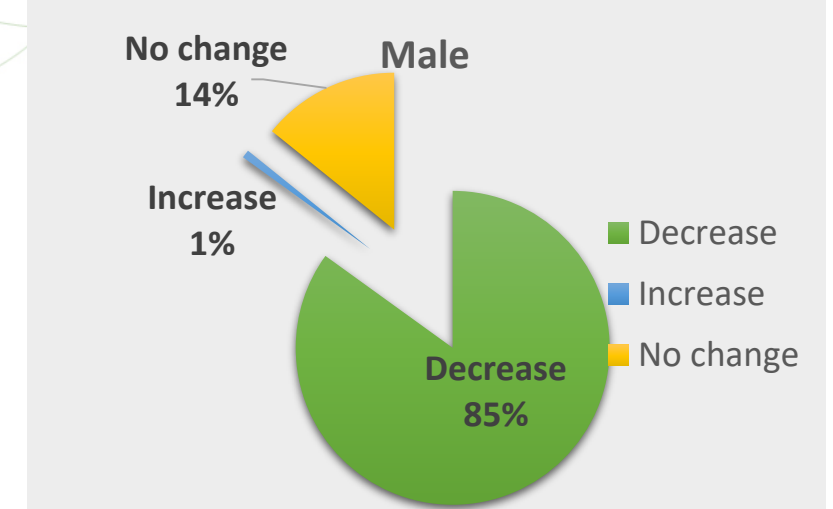
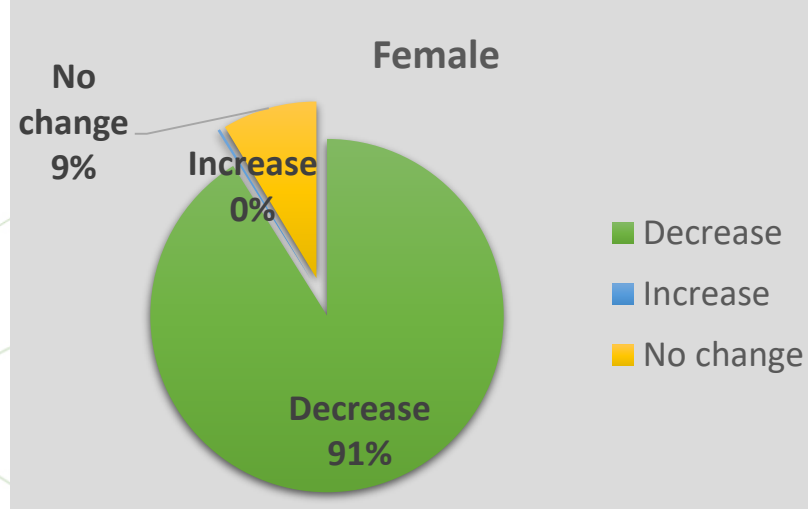
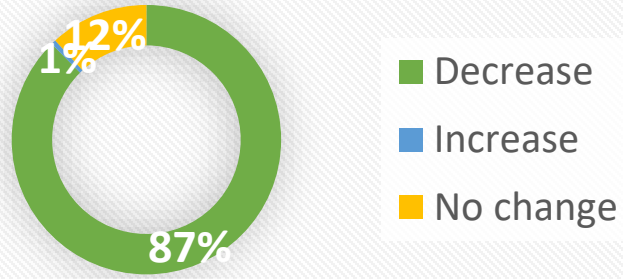


Perceived impacts on men

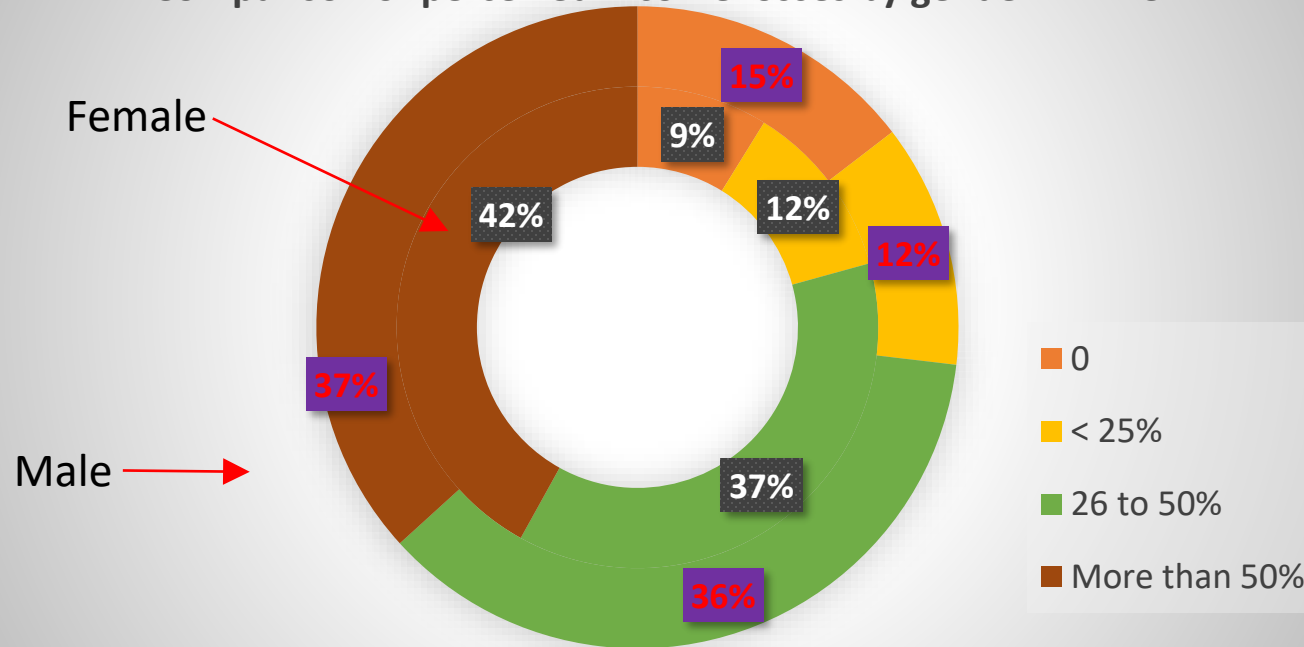


- In DRC, 86% of respondents affected with women reporting stronger impacts

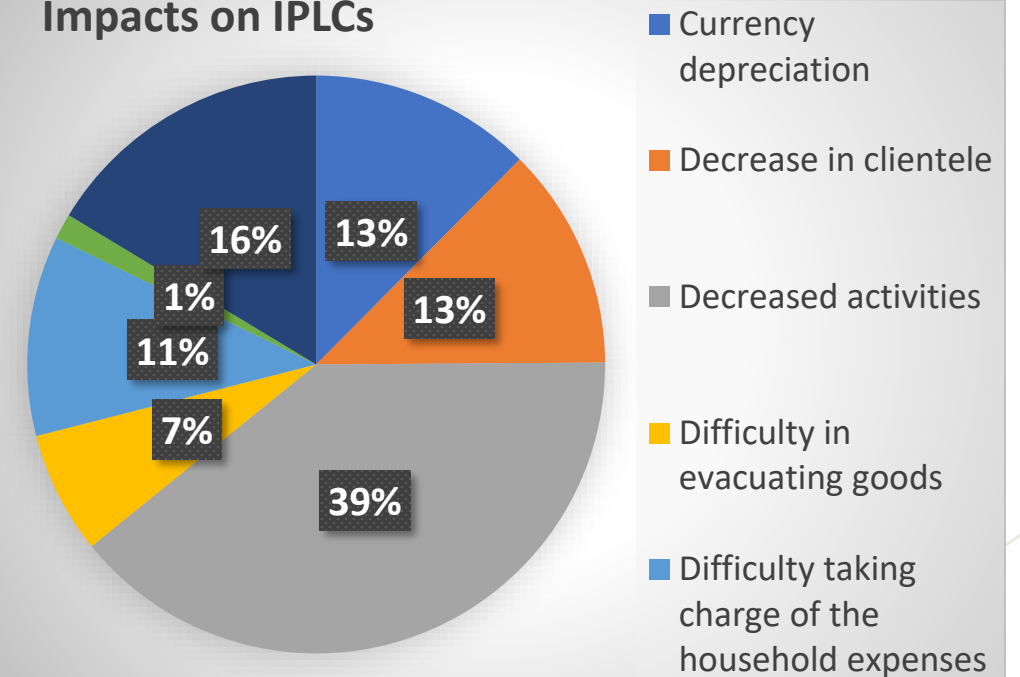
Perceived impacts of COVID on incomes in DRC



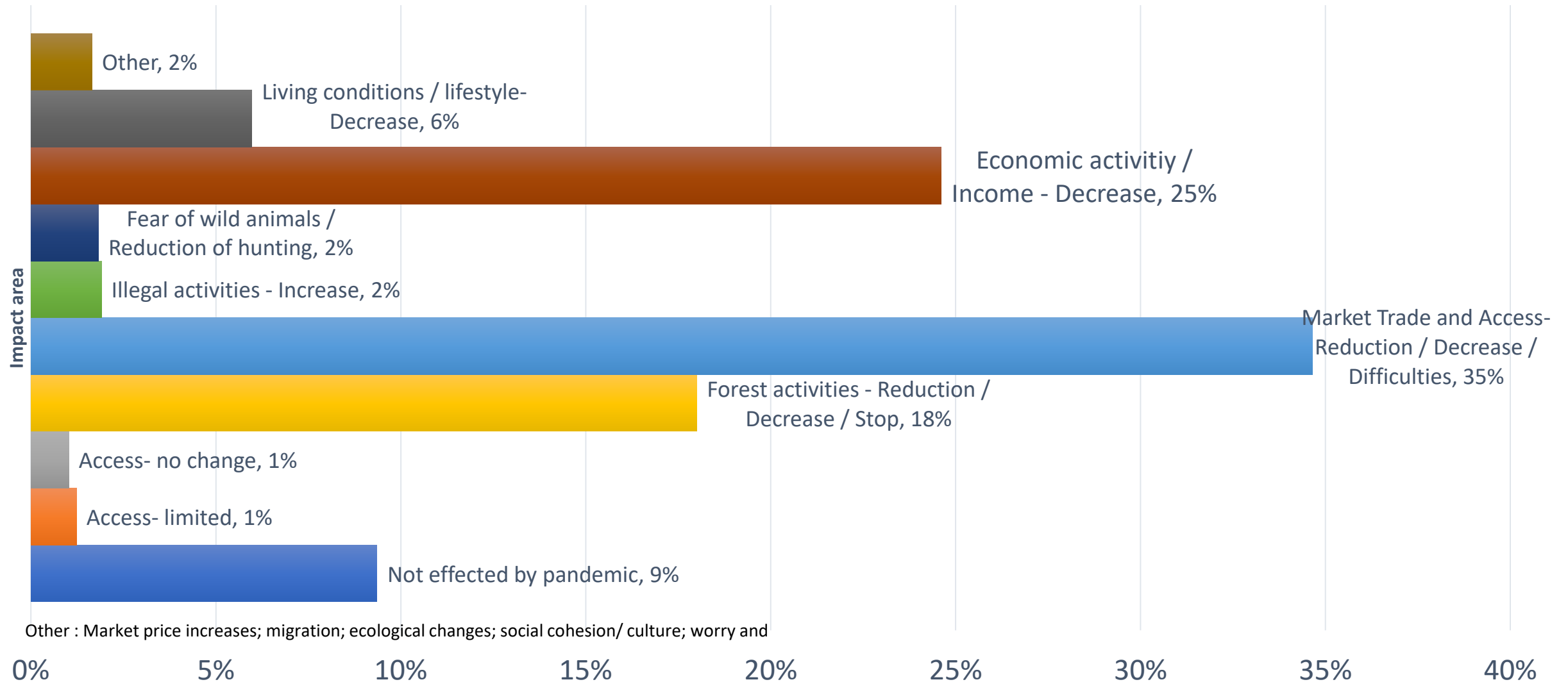
Comparison of perceived income losses by gender in DRC



Impacts on IPLCs



How has this pandemic affected indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities? Regional Response



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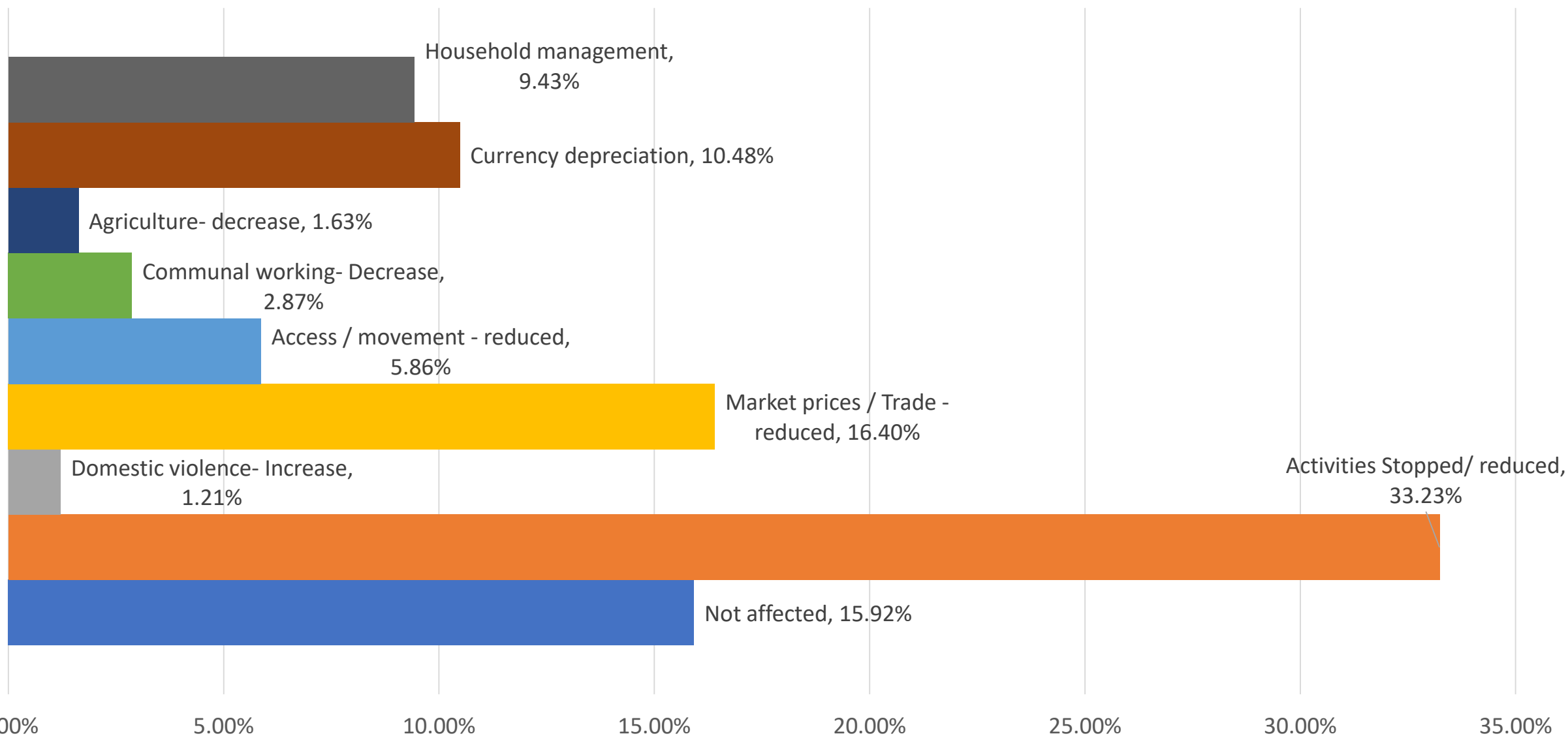


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How did this specifically affect forest dependent women? Regional responses



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Findings

- Ensure legality/sustainability and inclusive development is at forefront of post recovery agenda
- Strong need for independent forest monitoring by civil society
- Support to IPLCs, youth and women's to build back better livelihoods including through nature based solutions that have positive impacts on climate and biodiversity
- Support IPLCs to defend their rights and engage in denouncing forest illegality – support to community monitoring including use of technologies
- Strong monitoring of government action to ensure the fight against illegality/deforestation commitments are maintained in post pandemic recovery investment plans
- Participatory processes to ensure IPLCs and women take part in post recovery investment planning to ensure needs and their roles are taken into consideration
- Stronger capacity support to governments for law enforcement, strengthen regulatory frameworks to ensure legal and sustainable forest management
- Support to domestic market to formalise artisanal sector and curb rise of artisanal logging

Key messages



Takeaway message 1



Takeaway message 2



Takeaway message 3

This was made possible thanks to
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Thank you!